NO States-Item

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S.U. Probe Committee Again Backs Netterville

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BATON ROUGE — A special State Board of Education committee probing grievances at Southern University here and New Orleans today reaffirmed its support of President G. Leon Netterville and recommended that student participation in administrative affairs through councils be limited to an advisory capacity.

Six of the seven members of the committee, including three blacks, concurred in the report. Board member Robert Curry, a member of the committee, withheld endorsement on the grounds action should have been delayed until schools are reopened.

Jesse Bankston, chairman of the committee and also a member of the state board, said that the Board of Education had also concurred in the report in a telephone poll of members.

The committee's recommendations are far short of what students at the predominantly black institutions have been demanding as solutions for their problems.

Two of the key demands have been for the resignations of top officials, including Netterville, and a voice in running the institutions.

Meanwhile, another citizens committee probing the violence at the Southern campus in Baton Rouge that resulted in two student deaths, remained virtually non-communicative about its progress.

Neither Attorney General William Guste nor members of his staff have been responding to inquiries about what the special commission has been doing. The commission has interviewed ballistics experts but has withheld its findings after issuing initial reports concluding that police fired a shotgun at the students and precipitated the melee by throwing the first missile.

The Board of Education committee

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TES-ITEM NEW ORLEANS

Panel Backs Netterville

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includes board members Curry, Bankston, Sen. Frederick Eagan of New Orleans and W. E. Whetstone of Monroe, plus Judge Israel Augustine, Charles Teamer and the Rev. V. E. Washington.

"Our continuing analysis of the affairs of Southern University convinces us that the president should not be retired under present unsettled conditions," the committee said.

"We recommend," it continued, "that he be continued in his position and that the board give him full support in the administration of the affairs of the university."

The Southern campus at Baton Rouge has been closed until January and the students at the New Orleans campus have been effectively boycotting classes there.

The committee recommended that the board set up a procedure for naming new presidents, with at least six months in which to make evaluations and recommendations.

Students have been pressing for equal voice on various types of administration-student councils in running

The key phrase in the committee recommendation on student participation said:

"The departmental councils shall be advisory in nature and shall participate in departmental educational matters, other than appointments, tenure and salaries of faculty and expenditure of funds for supplies and materials."

Students have wanted control or equal voice in both the hiring and firing of teachers, evaluation and in compensation.

The committee recommended that students be included in developing evaluation programs for faculty.

Citing student complaints about faculty performance, the committee said it "feels that there may be some merit in these accusations.

"We are aware of the difficulties in property evaluating the performances of teachers," the committee said. "However, we feel that there must be some method or methods established for determining the quality of performance by each member of the teaching faculty.

"We are convinced that one of the criteria for determining quality of teaching should be the evaluation of